

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: May 30, 2008

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EASLEY REAPPOINTS BUCKNER, BUTLER, FESTERMAN, AND SHARPE AND APPOINTS LINGER TO CRIME COMMISSION

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has reappointed **Joseph M. Buckner** of Chapel Hill, **Earl “Moose” Butler** of Fayetteville, **James K. Festerman** of Reidsville, and **Crystal L. Sharpe** of Gibsonville and has appointed **Rita Anita Linger** of Chapel Hill to the Governor’s Crime Commission.

Buckner is chief district judge for Chatham and Orange counties. He is the president of the N.C. Association of District Court Judges and is the former president of the N.C. Conference of Chief District Judges. Buckner serves as chair of the Crime Victims’ Services for the Governor’s Crime Commission. He received a Bachelor’s degree in speech communication from UNC-Chapel Hill and his Juris Doctorate from UNC- Chapel Hill School of Law.

Butler is sheriff of Cumberland County. He is a former president of the North Carolina Sheriff’s Association and is a member of the Myrover-Reese Fellowship Home Board of Directors. Butler received his Bachelor’s degree in science from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Festerman is a retired chief of police and currently serves as the mayor of Reidsville. He received the Citizen of the Year Award in 2007 from the Reidsville Chamber of Commerce. Festerman graduated from Reidsville High School and the FBI National Academy.

Sharpe is a detective sergeant at the Graham Police Department. She is president of the Burlington Junior Woman’s Club, is a member of the Alamance County Domestic Violence Advocacy Council and serves as the needs assessment chair for the Alamance County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. Sharpe received the 2006 North Carolina Medallion Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service from the Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service and was also named one of the 40 Leaders Under 40 by the Triad Business Journal in 2006. She received her Bachelor’s degree in psychology and political science from UNC-Chapel Hill and her Master’s degree in criminal justice from the University at Albany, State University of New York.

Linger is the executive director of the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence in Durham. She serves as an adjunct faculty member at Peace College and is a guest faculty member at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. Linger is a member of the North Carolina Family Court Advisory Committee, the North Carolina Department of Corrections Domestic Violence Task Force and the Public Policy Committee of the National Network to End Domestic Violence. In 2007, she was

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